



Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008

2008 CHAPTER 22

PART 2

PARENTHOOD IN CASES INVOLVING ASSISTED REPRODUCTION

Further provision about registration by virtue of section 39, 40 or 46

51 Meaning of “relevant register of births”

For the purposes of this Part a “relevant register of births”, in relation to a birth, is whichever of the following is relevant—

- (a) a register of live-births or still-births kept under the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 (c. 20),
- (b) a register of births or still-births kept under the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 (c. 49), or
- (c) a register of live-births or still-births kept under the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (S.I. 1976/1041 (N.I. 14)).

52 Late election by mother with consent of Registrar General

- (1) The requirement under section 39(1), 40(1) or (2) or 46(1) or (2) as to the making of an election (which requires an election to be made either on or before the day on which the child was born or within the period of 42 or, as the case may be, 21 days from that day) is nevertheless to be treated as satisfied if the required election is made after the end of that period but with the consent of the Registrar General under subsection (2).
- (2) The Registrar General may at any time consent to the making of an election after the end of the period mentioned in subsection (1) if, on an application made to him in accordance with such requirements as he may specify, he is satisfied that there is a compelling reason for giving his consent to the making of such an election.

Changes to legislation: Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008, Cross Heading: Further provision about registration by virtue of section 39, 40 or 46 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (3) In this section “the Registrar General” means the Registrar General for England and Wales, the Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for Scotland or (as the case may be) the Registrar General for Northern Ireland.

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 55(3)(e) and word inserted by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 75\(b\)](#)